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ORANGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
VOLUME XXX1X NO 11 P.O. BOX 3454, TUSTIN, CA. 92681 NOV. 1998  
WEB SITE <http://www.w6ze.org>

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### Prez Sez

## **Happy Thanks Giving**

I am glad to have had a chance to put in a year as President. It has given me a chance to get to know more of you and has made me aware of other people's lives. I hope all of you will have a chance to be with family and friends for this Thanks Giving. One question though, how did the year slip by so fast.

This week during our November meeting we will have elections for new officers for 1999. Now just the year alone should make people want to run for an office. Just think, you will be able to say "I was the very last fill in the blank before the year 2000."

Please give it some thought, we would love to have a real election with more than one person running for the different offices. Don't be shy, let me know you are interested in a position and I will be happy to *Railroad*, I mean *Nominate* you for that office.

It was nice to see Bud at the Anaheim 1998 Public Safety and Volunteer Awards Luncheon that was held today at the Phoenix Club. The Fire Department and Police Department sponsored the Volunteer Recognition Luncheon today and included the RACES and CERTS groups use of Ham Radio among other things.

Next on the agenda for me is the La Palma Parade and Band Review. That is held tomorrow Nov. 14 and is sure to have a great selection of music. I will shadow one of the officials that queue the floats or bands.

73, de kd6bwh Bob  
[kd6bwh@aol.com](mailto:kd6bwh@aol.com)

## 1998 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President.....	Bob Buss.....	KD6BWH.....	534-2995
Vice President.....	Larry Hoffman.....	K6LDC.....	636-4345
Secretary.....	Jim Winn.....	KE6UCH.....	731-2732
Treasurer.....	Phil Andersen.....	N7PA.....	731-8333
Activities.....	Steve Rasmussen.....	KE6NAH.....	562-3305
Membership.....	John Dawson.....	WA6RND.....	633-7469
Publicity.....	Ken Konechy.....	W6HHC.....	744-0217
Technical.....	Larry Beilin.....	K6VDP.....	557-7217
Member at Large.....	Frank Smith.....	WA6VKZ.....	838-3180
Member at Large.....	Art Sheldon.....	K7ZE.....	997-3735

## CLUB APPOINTMENTS

Club Historian.....	Bob Evans.....	WB6IXN.....	543-9111
W6ZE Trustee.....	Bob Eckweiler.....	AF6C.....	639-5074
RF Editor.....	Bud Barkhurst.....	WA6VPP.....	774-6361
Refreshments.....			
Field Day Chairman....	Chris Breller.....	KJ6ZH.....	562-925-9157

## DUES

Regular Members.....\$15.00      Additional Members.....\$7.50 each  
Teenage Members.....\$ 6.00      Optional Club Badge.....\$5.00 each  
Dues for new members are pro-rated quarterly from January 1st each  
year. Family members must reside at the address of a regular member.  
Only one RF is sent per household.



An ARRL Affiliated Club

# LOOK



K6LDC

## Coming Meeting Programs:

November 20

Steve Riches, N6SOG, O.C. Sheriff's deputy will present a talk and demonstration of the Magellan GPS 2000XL unit with info on UTM coordinates and GPS to longitudinal coordinates. Those of you that have them, Bring Your GPS units.

Election of Officers following the program

December 12

Annual Club Christmas Dinner Party at Mimi's Restaurant, 17th. St. 1 block east of the 55 Freeway in Tustin. 7:00 P.M. until ????? Order from the menu.

### INFORMAL BUSINESS MEETING 11/7/98

Treasurer: Auction: Total Sales \$676.00  
Ending Balance: 11/6/98 \$1,004.97

Nominating Committee: Proposed nominees for the 1999 election:

President: Steve, KE6NAH  
Vice. Pres: Chris, KJ6ZH  
Secretary: Cory, KE6WIU  
Treasurer: Ken, W6HHC  
Activities: Larry, KD6VDP (pending withdrawal)  
Refreshments: Art, KE6WOX  
Publicity: Phil, N7PA  
Membership: Lowell, KQ6JD  
Technical: Elmer, WA6PFA  
At Large: Larry, K6LDC  
Bob, KD6BWH

Membership: No Report

Old Business: Towers: \$125.00 each. Bob, BWH, states that a member of the Super System has interest in one. Bob, BWH and Chris, ZH, to take two each for storage. Frank, VKZ, to check on trailer rental for the move to storage. Coordinate all moving by Saturday November 21, 8 AM. It was suggested that a card be posted at HRO regarding the towers.

New Business: Business meeting/breakfast to be held at current location Coco's Restaurant, Tustin Ave. in Orange.

Respectfully submitted, Cory Terando, KE6WIU



## Bit & Pieces -----

### QRP Contesting Tips

• Read the contest announcements thoroughly! Dumb as it sounds, it's nice to be on the air the same weekend as the contest. Also, know which stations you're supposed to be working and the correct contest exchange.

• Use the "search-and-pounce" (S&P) technique. Don't try to hold a frequency with only a few watts. You just don't have the raw RF power to do it. S&P gives you a chance to move around and grab QSOs and multipliers quickly. Tune across the bands and try working the loudest stations first (but don't waste time trying to break a pileup. Move on after a couple of tries). Then, go back and work the stations that aren't as loud (the so-called second-tier stations). Repeat the process for third-tier stations. This way, you'll thoroughly work each band.

• Initially, stay away from "kilowatt alley" (the bottom end of the bands). Instead, cruise the middle to high end of the bands where the QRM is less and your chances of being heard against the cacophony of signals are much better. Toward the end of the contest, slip down into the lower portions of the bands and grab the "big signals," who are, by then, desperate for contacts.

• Use a computer with a good contest logging program. These and others are available through ham radio dealers or through magazine ads in *National Contest Journal*<sup>1</sup> and other publications. The computer takes the work out of duping, and you obtain a real-time score. I guarantee that once you log with a computer, you will never go back to paper logs and dupe sheets.

• Antennas are the "great equalizer" in QRP. Therefore, erect the biggest and tallest antenna system you can. Do not skimp by using cheap or old coaxial-cable feed lines. New runs of RG-213 will ensure that as much of your power as possible makes it to the antenna.

• Regularly check other bands for surprise openings. A second receiver is very handy here. If 10 or 15 meters suddenly opens up, you stand a very good chance of picking up both extra QSOs and multipliers on bands where QRP power levels work very well.

• Do not use packet spots from the DX cluster. Under current contesting guidelines, doing so puts you in the "single-operator, assisted" category competing against high-power stations, *not* in the QRP category. (Besides, you'll be bucking heads with the crowd.)

• Sharpen your listening and tail-ending skills. Learn to read how the other operator is handling the pileup. Slide your call sign in at the appropriate time and, more often than not, you will get in the other operator's log on the first or second shot.

• Keep abreast of the latest developments in contesting by reading the major ham magazines, *National Contest Journal*, QRP club newsletters and books on contesting and QRP.<sup>11</sup>

• Approach QRP contesting as a challenge and a learning experience. Be open-minded and try new and different techniques during the contest. Keep those techniques that work, discard the rest and watch your operating skills improve.

<sup>1</sup> *National Contest Journal*, a bimonthly publication of the ARRL, is dedicated to all phases of contesting. It features a QRP contest column by Howie Cahn, WB2CPU. \$12/year. ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111, 800-594-0250.

<sup>11</sup> K7YHA's *QRP Library*, *Low Power Communications*, Vols 1-3, are available directly from the author, Richard H. Arland, K7YHA, PO Box 1782, Shavertown, PA 18708, 717-822-7057; *Ham Radio Contesting*, by Robert Halprin, K1XA, is available from Tiers Publications, PO Box 493, Lake Geneva, WI 53147, 414-248-4845.



GEORGE IS IN THE SHACK PLAYING FOX HUNT—  
THEY'VE LET HIM BE THE FOX SO OFTEN, I  
THINK IT'S GONE TO HIS HEAD



THE TO WEC  
BOY, I WISH I COULD HAVE BROUGHT MY RADIO  
GEAR—EVERYTHING IS LINE-OF-SIGHT FROM  
UP HERE!!

Man wanted to work in dynamite factory. Must be willing to travel.

Mixing bowl set designed to please the cook with round bottom for efficient beating.

Auto repair service. Free pick up and delivery. Try us once, you'll never go anywhere again.

NETNEWS  
BY WB6IXN

10/7 10m Phone Net - W6ZE/AF6C checks in JD, LDC, WOX, IXN, HHC, COJ, VDP, VPP, LEX, TWA, PFA, and RE. JD, half asleep, just returned frm grocery shopping, enjoys the Club Bfast last Sat., & hopes IXN does well in upcoming surgery. AF6C & buddies work in the cold (no heat) up at Blue Ridge, and now, its take dwn an ant. on bldg. 15 to analyze a radiation problem. LDC 'checks into Net a half hour early'! And Larry tells OPs he was on standby jury duty, hving been selected fer a jury. AF6C inquires if LDC ate all the halloween candy he bought! WOX's new roof withstood the SA winds onslaught, and Art's XYL has jury duty this week. IXN gets notice to see a surgeon abt a hernia, and HHC asks IXN fer the present score in the Cleveland/Atlanta playoff game. All OPs greet VPP wid enthusiasm, as Bud has to change frm an old Shure mike to the rig mike to avoid a hum problem. COJ says UC is doing FB, and Dave may be moving up north to be near his daughter. COJ will bring goodies to the Club auction this month. VDP's XYL has jury duty now, and Larry has been hving some stomach trouble. LEX works the CA QSO Party last weekend, picking up 25 needed QSOs! TWA plans a trip, and Charles awaits the outcome on a replacement request fer a bad tire. PFA joins us tonite...the XYL isn't watching TV! Tom works Guam, sees a gd Club webpage, and suggests we give our Club Webpage adr. during QSOs! RE forgot Net last week. Alex got side-tracked doing other things! RE reports sunspots fer week of 9/24 156 high, 87 low.

10/7 2m Phone Net - W6ZE/IXN checks in RE, LDC, AF6C, VDP, SMY, BWH, W6WC, and KFW. RE says 17m has stronger sigs than 20m, the WARC band was alive! LDC asks IXN abt the Orionid meteor shower. AF6C asks abt the meteor shower, too, and Bob tells OPs abt his cold trip up to Monument Peak to make repairs on company communications gear. IXN gives OPs an Orionid peak date of Oct. 20. BWH checks in mobile, telling OPs he worked the 'Multiple Sclerosis 150' event wid the CARES amateurs. Bob air Newsline #1,103 after arriving at the QTH. If any OPs need chunks of heavy wood, or antenna masts, check wid VDP first! SMY busies himself wid computer work and vacationing. LDC reminds OPs abt the upcoming Club auction and DXpedition. And KFW finishes work on a 3 element beam, repairing the traps. KFW & IXN discuss hernia surgery after Net. We welcome W6WC, Tom, to the Net. Tom can't believe IXN is only using 5 watts out!

10/14 10m Phone Net - W6ZE/WOX checks in VDP, JD, LDC, IXN, & HHC. AF6C is not feeling well this eve., so WOX assumes NC duties. Art meets K6WWL, a retiring marine at El Toro, on the air. And WOX is busy wid the harmonic's football activities and a daughter who needs tires on the Volkswagon! IXN and WOX discuss the Padres winning the playoffs and the upcoming World Series. VDP works a 'lil DX on 10 & 12m. And Larry reminds all abt the Club auction Fri. eve. JD hears all OPs well tonite, telling OPs this is the first HF he's worked in 5 days. LDC finishes jury duty on a Nazi gang drug case. And Larry works a couple of QSOs on 40m last nite. WOX will ride to the swap meet wid LDC this weekend, and LDC reminds all abt the upcoming 'Not-

so-DXpedition'. HHC looks forward to the Club auction this Fri. eve., and Ken & WOX discuss Ken's recent vacation in Europe, as Ken introduces Diane to cappuccino, Italian style!

10/14 2m Phone Net - W6ZE/IXN checks in SMY, TL, LDC, ZH, RND, VDP, WB9YCJ (Ken, in SA), and NAH. SMY has almost completed classes w/d the City of Anaheim, enjoys the Wed. Club nets, and will attend the Auction Fri. eve. TL, substituting for BWH, airs Newline loud & clear. We learn of a new proposal before FCC to limit code speed to 5 wpm for higher class amateur licenses. LDC hears YCJ/6 v'y well, as do most OPs after Ken switches to the cone ant. mounted on his chimney at the QTH. Coming south thru central CA, LDC says the Stockton repeater, simplex, on 147.165, and a repeater on 146.39-, near Bakersfield, give gud communications to Tejon Pass. All OPs tell RND that they have received ther 'RFs'. And LDC is continuing his physical exam w/d a wrist band fer carpal tunnel syndrome, a radiation exam & treadmill on Fri.! ZH looks forward to the auction, as Chris busies himself taking dwn antennas and the elimination of sum gear in preparation to sell the QTH and move south to Orange County. ZH's knee is doing well, and Chris may be able to avoid surgery. RND gets the cast off the arm, practices his guitar, ties his shoes, shifts gears in the auto, and tells OPs that 10m is 'going bananas' arnd 9:30 am.! Also, John and VDP discuss RND's plans to get his 10-10 number v'y soon! VDP tells John to tune to 28.380 MHz SSB at 11 am to hear the local 10-10 Net, w/d AA6ZW as NC. VDP says PA has a gud E-mail joke, and Larry works 10, 12, and 17m this week, contacting UA0FF on 12m & 3D2 on 12m CW. Larry will attend the Club auction, and then it's off to the Pomona Swap Meet Sat. NAH 'flies in and flies out'.

10/21 10m Phone Net - W6ZE/LDC checks in IXN, LEX, WOX, XO, YCJ/6, VPP, HHC, JD, RND, and BWH. AF6C is in Yuma, so XO, not feeling well, asks LDC to assume NC duties. LDC tells OPs he plans a wire ant. fer 12 & 17m fer use on the DXpedition. LDC can't hear HHC tonite, so YCJ relays HHC's Club auction report to Larry. And LEX, hands full w/d the Harmonic, says he's working fer a WAS during lunch breaks! WOX & XYL go to the Harmonic's football pizza party. Art tells OPs that he worked VFC in Arkansas, telling Dennis 'HI' frm all the OPs! And WOX finds Hustler ant. folks great to deal with, getting paperwork & sum ant. parts free! And VPP, w/d QRM & QRN on his rig, asks LDC abt the upcoming DXpedition to the dry lake bed on the 30th, 31st and 1st. HHC checks the ICOM web page but cannot find any info. on the EICOM Users Net fer YCJ. Ken reports that the Club took in arnd \$700 at the Auction, earning the Club \$70!...(not bad!) JD discusses the DXpedition w/d LDC, and RND reports in later, after watching NY take the lead frm SD in the World Series! And John gets an electronic keyer on line fer the 920, gets an ARRL contest award, and asks WOX if he got his award...Art acknowledges he received his QRP sideband award, too!

10/21 2m Phone Net - W6ZE/IXN checks in SMY, SCV, LDC, RE, VDP, UBK, ZH, and BWH. SMY, monitoring 2 radios, misses the 1st go-around w/d OPs, but Stephanie responds to the next call, asking IXN remain on freq. after Net, then telling IXN that the LIDS on 435 are re-broadcasting PSN Net proceedings as QRM on the 435 machine! SCV says

the Ship is down in Mexico getting its bottom scraped, so Mike will have a 'lil time to ham wid us on Net. Mike says he worked Europe from the ship at Catalina, and he plans to go QRP on HF soon. LDC copied most of the OPs on 10m tonite, but wid a lot of QRN! RE & XYL enjoy a visit frm their two daughters, and Alex gives a sunspot high of 146, and a low of 68 for Oct. 8-14. And VDP, getting over a cold, works 10 & 15m DX to Europe. Larry plans to work the upcoming DX Contest, and plans to contact Rolf in Spokane (formerly QW) on 14.195 MHz at 5 pm on Thursdays. UBK goes on vacation to Colorado to visit kin celebrating a 50th wedding anniv. ZH sees VDP & KR6LO at the Pomona Swap Meet, and Chris sells over \$300 worth of gear, wid more to go, as Chris plans to move south. This weekend, Chris and 5 other OPs will meet at KD6OKs shack to work the worldwide DX contest, inviting OPs to drop by to witness the operation! BWH airs Newsline #1105, inwhich we learn abt a proposed 6m band plan!

10/28 10m Phone Net - W6ZE/AF6C checks in LDC, VDP, JD, VPP, IXN, RND, HHC, WOX, LEX, and RE. LDC, hearing all OPs, winds traps fer a dipole ant. fer the DXpedition while keeping an ear on Net happenings. AF6C gets bk frm AZ, in time to make another trip to Monument Peak Radio Facility, and, it may be bk to AZ again this weekend! VDP works the DX Contest over last weekend, garnering a few new prefixes! IXN tnx VDP for the computer program on vert. center-fed ants., and Bob alerts OPs to the continuing land movement at the junction of the Helendale & Arrastre Canyon faults near Big Bear City. JD & AF6C discuss a problem wid the new log-periodic Telex ant. at work, and VPP discovers his high SWR problem is a high solder joint in a coax connector, and Bud discovers a bad mike that came wid a rig he bought at the Club auction. And Bid is building a spare computer, too. IXN is a 'lil weak at RND's QTH, and John is bk playing the guitar wid the band once more. HHC inquires if AF6C got the Heathkit metal detector working yet, and Ken helps Bob put the rotator bk on the beam ant. last weekend. WOX suggests we put some of NGO's left over connectors in the Club raffle...AF6C says money frm sales of Kei's junkbox items goes to a special memorial fund. LEX, constructing a kit while listening to Net, prepares to work the 10m Worldwide Contest this weekend. IXN gets ready fer the 2m Net & misses RE's checkin.

10/28 2m Phone Net - W6ZE/IXN checks in SMY, LDC, VDP, RE, TWA, UBK, and BWH. SMY checks in, and comes bk later on low power. Radio study and work keeps Stephanie busy. IXN has a computer disk of 3 BASIC programs for VDP. And VDP says his \$50 Delta Loop antenna works well on 10m. And Larry says 15m was better than 20m in the Contest, and 40m was poor. RE is busy wid chemotherapy medications fer cancer of the prostate, and the XYL has a suspicious spot in her breast! And TWA gets bk frm a visit to Gatlinburg, TN, where he visited the Tentec plant. Now Charles must replace the lithium battery in the 631's memory...Seems the rig is suffering frm a 'lil Alzheimer's disorder! SMY inquires abt the DXpedition this coming weekend, and UBK, hving chased the harmonic bk to the bedroom, tells OPs he accompanied his daddy-in-law on a deer hunting trip near Tobias Peak. But Del does more hamming than hunting, working a couple of nearby repeaters. BWH makes a killing on firewood, and Bob airs Newsline #1166, where the

'Perils of Pauline' continue for one errant OP who contests his FCC fine in court...Chapt. 2 comes later on Newsline!!

Humer is where you find it -----

**The scene opens upon an amateur radio operator sitting at his desk contemplating how he should answer a letter from his insurance company. Eventually, this is his reply...**

I am writing in response to your request for additional information in block number (3) of the Accident Report Form. I put "poor planning" as the cause of my accident. You said in your letter that I should explain more fully, and I trust that the following details will be sufficient.

I am an amateur radio operator. On the day of the accident I was working alone on the top section of my new 80 foot tower. When I had completed my work, I discovered that I had brought, over the course of several trips up the tower, about 300 pounds of tools and spare hardware to the top. Rather than carry the now unneeded tools and material down by hand, I decided to lower the materials down in a small barrel by using a pulley which fortunately was fastened to the gin pole at the top of the tower.

Securing the rope at ground level, I went to the top of the tower and loaded the tools and materials into the barrel. Then I went back to the ground level and untied the rope, holding tightly to ensure a slow descent of the 300 pounds of tools. You will note that in block (11) of the Accident Report Form that I only weigh 150 pounds. Due to my surprise at being jerked off the ground so suddenly, I lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope. Needless to say, I proceeded at a rather rapid rate of speed up the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40 foot level, I met the barrel coming down. This explains my fractured skull and broken collar bone. Slowed only slightly, I continued my rapid ascent, not stopping until the fingers of my right hand were two knuckles deep into the pulley.

Fortunately by this time, I had regained my presence of mind and was able to hold onto the rope in spite of my pain. At approximately the same time, however, the barrel of tools hit the ground and the bottom fell out of the barrel.

Devoid of the weight of the tools, the barrel now weighed approximately 30 pounds. I refer you again to my weight in block number (11). As you might imagine, I began a rapid descent down the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40 foot level, I met the barrel coming up. This accounts for the two broken ankles and lacerations of my legs and lower body.

The encounter with the barrel slowed me enough to lessen my injuries when I fell onto the pile of tools and, fortunately, only three vertebrae were cracked.

I am sorry to report, however, that as I lay there on the pile of tools in pain and unable to stand, watching the empty barrel 80 feet above me, I again lost my presence of mind... and let go of the rope.



The **W6ZE**



# Annual Xmas Party



## Saturday, Dec. 12th, 1998

7:00 PM until.....



*At Mimi's Restaurant*

17th St. at the 55 Freeway, Tustin

Dinner is from the menu.

- ★ Great Selection of Food
- ★ Modest Prices
- ★ Wonderful Atmosphere
- ★ Dinner with Friends



For more Info

Call Larry Hoffman, K6LDC  
(714) 636-4345



## Club Nets

<u>Band</u>	<u>Mode</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Local Time</u>	<u>Freq., MHZ</u>	<u>Net Control</u>
10 Meters	SSB	Wednesday	7:30 P.M.	28.375*	AF6C
2 Meters	FM	Wednesday	8:30 P.M.	146.550	WB6IXN Simplex

(Listen for W6ZE, Net Control)

\*Plus or Minus QRM

### General Meeting

Nov 20th  
Dec 18th  
Jan 15th

General Meeting is the third Friday of each month, 7:30 P.M.,  
AMERICAN RED CROSS facilities.

601 N. Golden Circle Dr., Santa Ana, Ca.  
Major cross streets: Fourth Street and Tustin Ave.  
Talk-In frequency 146.550 MHZ, simplex.

### Board Breakfast

Dec 5th  
Jan 2nd  
Feb 6th

Board Meeting is the first Saturday of each month, 8:00 A.M.  
COCO's Restaurant ----- Members and Visitors are welcome.

2585 N. Tustin Ave., Orange, Ca.  
Exit the 55 FWY at Lincoln Ave., West to Tustin Ave., Left on Tustin,  
Restaurant on the East side. (Across from Ford Agency)



Orange County Amateur Radio Club Inc.  
P.O. Box 3454  
Tustin, Ca., 92781



## First Class Mail

To:

Your Personal Copy

WB6IXN Bob Evans  
701 S. Kilson Dr.  
Santa Ana, Ca. 92701

Time Dated Material  
Please Rush

## **COMING EVENTS**

Dec. 12 Club Xmas Dinner/Party  
Nov. 20 Elections & program  
May7,8&9 "Not so DX-pedition"